



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

PORTUGUESE PREDATOR ARRESTED BY ICE IN CHICOPEE

CHICOPEE, MA—U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) special agents yesterday arrested a 53-year-old predator convicted of 4 counts of indecent assault and battery on a child under 14 years of age.

Manuel Henriques, a citizen of Portugal, was arrested by Chicopee (MA) Police on May 28, 2002 for charges of assault of a child with intent to rape and indecent assault and battery on a child under 14 years of age. He was convicted on April 23, 2003 and sentenced to a prison term of 2 ½ years, as well as mandatory registration as a sex offender and imposition of lifetime community parole.

Henriques is in the country as a legal resident; however, as an aggravated felon, he is subject to removal under Section 237 (a) (2) (A) (iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). ICE has subsequently placed him into removal proceedings.

“Those who commit unthinkable acts against our society’s most vulnerable – our children – will surely be punished,” said Robin M. Avers, special agent-in-charge of ICE in New England. “ICE will continue to work with our law enforcement and Operation Predator partners to remove these despicable criminals from our streets, and our country.”

Henriques is being held in ICE custody awaiting the outcome of his case.

Henriques’ arrest is part of a nationwide initiative known as Operation Predator. Operation Predator protects our children from sexual predators, including those who travel across continents to have sex with minors. Internet child pornographers and criminal alien sex offenders and child traffickers are also a priority of ICE. Since the initiative was launched in July of 2003, there have been more than 5,750 individuals arrested nationwide. ICE in New England has arrested a total of 185 predators New England wide, 116 of which were arrested in Mass.

ICE encourages anyone who wants to report suspicious activity of suspected child predators and suspicious activity through our toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. Investigators staff this hotline around the clock.

Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for missing & Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.